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flow of air and water or another liquid. The rate and force of the flows generated correspond to the capacity of the compressor 10 and the liquid pump 15, respectively.--

Please add the following paragraph after the paragraph ending on page 6, line 25:

-The invention being thus described, it will be obvious that the same may be varied in many ways. Such variations are not to be regarded as a departure from the spirit and scope of the invention, b 10 and all such modifications as would be obvious to one skilled in the art are intended to be included within the scope of the following claims.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for selectively generating a flow of gas from an open first end of a tubular body, said method comprising:

b 11 connecting a second end of the tubular body directly to a gas outlet of a gas compressor, which is a piston compressor having a plurality of cylinders, the capacity of the gas compressor being selected so as to obtain through said open free end of the tubular

body a desired gas flow rate being a flow of air used by a dentist for cleaning the teeth of a patient,

starting the operation of the compressor so as to start the gas flow, and

stopping the gas flow by stopping the operation of the compressor.

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the compressor is driven by an electric motor, the operation of the electric motor being started and stopped by actuating a switch positioned on the tubular body at or adjacent to its first open end so as to control power supply to the electric motor.

3. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tubular body comprises a wall part being made from a resilient material, the open first end of the tubular body being at least partly closed and subsequently reopened while the compressor is still operating, so as to temporarily expand the resilient wall part, whereby a pressure pulse may be generated.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the wall part defining the open first end of the tubular body or being adjacent thereto is made from a resilient material, the open first

end of the tubular body being at least partly closed by compressing said resilient wall part.

5. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein liquid is selectively introduced into the open first end of the tubular body forming a nozzle.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein liquid is introduced into the tubular body when the gas compressor is operating.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the liquid is sprayed out from the open first end of the tubular body when the gas compressor is not operating.

8. (Amended) An apparatus for selectively producing a gas flow, said apparatus comprising:

a gas compressor, which is a piston compressor having a plurality of pistons and cylinders and a gas inlet and a gas outlet,

an electric motor for driving the gas compressor,  
means for switching the electric motor on and off, and  
a tubular body in the form of a dentist's tool for cleaning teeth, said tubular body having an open first end part and a second

opposite end part communicating directly with the gas outlet of the compressor, the capacity of the compressor being such that a desired gas flow through the open first end part is obtained when the gas compressor is operating.

9. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the means for switching is positioned on the tubular body at or adjacent to the open first end part of the tubular body.

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10. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the tubular body comprises at least one resilient wall part, and manually operateable means for selectively closing the open first end part of the tubular body at least partly.

11. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein at least the open first end part of the tubular body is made from a resilient material.

12. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising an outer tube section made from a stiff material and surrounding the open first end part of the tubular body, the manually operateable means being mounted on the outer tube section.

13. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the means for switching comprises a microswitch embedded in the resilient wall part of the open first end part of the tubular body, the means for switching being actuated when the manually operateable means are operated so as to at least partly compress and close the open first end part of the tubular body.

14. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a liquid delivery tube opening into the open first end part of the tubular body, and means for selectively delivering liquid into the open first end part of the tubular body via the delivery tube.

15. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the means for selectively delivering liquid comprise a liquid pump and an electric motor for driving the pump, the operation of the electric motor driving the pump being controlled by a switch arranged at or adjacent to the open first end part of the tubular body.

16. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein an open end of the liquid delivery tube is directed towards the open end of the tubular body.

17. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the tubular body is in the form of a hose of a resilient material.

18. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the electric motor is a brushless DC-motor.

19. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the piston compressor comprises a crank shaft comprising crank sections interconnected with said pistons, adjacent crank sections being flexibly interconnected by a flexible coupling device.  
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20. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the coupling device comprises a tubular member formed by a helically wound thread or wire, opposite ends of the tubular member being connected to adjacent, substantially aligned shaft ends of said crank sections.

21. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said opposite open ends of the tubular member are open ends adapted to receive and surround said respective shaft ends.

22. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 21, wherein at least one of the opposite ends of the tubular member is adapted to frictionally engage with the peripheral surface of the respective shaft end.

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23. (Twice Amended) The apparatus according to claim 20, wherein a free end of the thread or wire extends transversely into at least one of said opposite ends of the tubular member and is received in a slot or recess formed in the corresponding shaft end.

[ Please add the following claims:

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--24. An apparatus for selectively producing a gas flow, said apparatus comprising:

a gas compressor, which is a piston compressor having a gas inlet and a gas outlet, a plurality of pistons and cylinders, and a crank shaft including crank sections interconnected with said pistons, adjacent crank sections being flexibly interconnected by a flexible coupling device,

an electric motor for driving the gas compressor,

a switch for the electric motor, and

a tubular body adapted to be used by dentists for cleaning teeth, said tubular body having an open first end part and a second opposite end part communicating directly with the gas outlet of the compressor, the capacity of the compressor being such that a

desired gas flow through the open first end part is obtained when the gas compressor is operating.--

--25. The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the coupling device comprises a tubular member formed by a helically wound thread or wire, opposite ends of the tubular member being connected to adjacent, substantially aligned shaft ends of said crank sections.--

--26. The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said opposite open ends of the tubular member are open ends adapted to receive and surround said respective shaft ends.--

--27. The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein at least one of the opposite ends of the tubular member is adapted to frictionally engage with the peripheral surface of the respective shaft end.--

--28. The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein a free end of the thread or wire extends transversely into at least one of said opposite ends of the tubular member and is received in a slot or recess formed in the corresponding shaft end. --